GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2701
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2001
REDUCTION OF DEVELOPMENT SCHEME
NAWAL KISHORE RAI;RAMJI LAL SUMAN

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to prune the number of development schemes;

(b) if so, the number out of these development schemes proposed to be wound up;

(c) the number out of these development schemes which are proposed to be executed after merging them; and

(d) the ministries-wise schemes proposed to be wound up and those to be merged and are related to the ministries?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT, MINISTER OF STATE IN TH MINISTRIES OF PLANNING, STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d): Different Ministries / Departments of Government of India implementand monitor development schemes which address specific needs of the country. Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs) funded by the Government of India andmplemented by the State Governments account for a major proportion ofdevelopment schemes. The Government has been concerned with proliferation of schemes on a very large scale. The Ninth Plan, therefore, emphasized that `Inprinciple, Centrally Sponsored Schemes should be confined to schemes of an inter- State character; matters impinging on national security; selected national priorities where Central supervision is essential for effective implementation; and multi State externally financed projects where Central coordination is necessary for operational reasons`.

The NDC in its meeting held in February, 1999 decided to constitute aCommittee under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission withUnion Ministers of Finance, Human Resource Development, Agriculture, ConsumerAffairs & Public Distribution System and Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh,Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal to examine the issues of convergence, merger, discontinuation and transfer of CSSs to the States.The NDC Committee isexpected to submit its report by 30th September, 2001.

The need for rationalization of development schemes has also been reiterated by the Prime Minister in the meetings of the Full Planning Commission held on June27 and 29, 2001 to subject all schemes to Zero Based Budgeting before the start of theTenth Five Year Plan. In view of this, all Central Ministries / Departments have beendirected to review all development schemes based on Zero Based Budgeting Methodology and complete the exercise before the commencement of the Tenth Five Year Plan.